

JAMES SCHULD

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June 4, 1999

Thomas Ferns
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550, MSIN HO-12
Richland, WA 99352-0550

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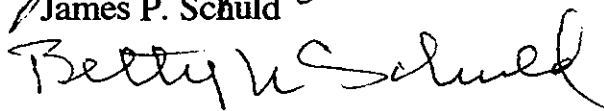
Dear Mr. Ferns,

We support the Department of Energy's preferred alternative for the Hanford Reach but with the amendments of the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society:

1. Designate all public lands on the Wahluke Slope, the Hanford Reach, its islands, the McGee Ranch, and the Arid Lands Ecology Reserve as a National Wildlife Refuge (176,000 total acres).
2. Oppose grazing on the Hanford Nuclear Reservation.
3. Support restricting all mining operations to those essential to completing clean-up and remediation on the Hanford Reservation.
4. Issue a separate Record of Decision for all the areas mentioned above. These areas are prime fish and wildlife habitat, uncontaminated by Hanford operations, and should not have to wait for protection until the complex decisions involving clean-up in the central Hanford area are made.

Sincerely,


James P. Schuld


Betty N. Schuld